

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application.

This application is a continuation application of parent application Serial No. 09/592,587, filed on June 12, 2000. The present continuation application is submitted to prosecute Claims 1 and 3 that correspond to Claims 1 and 5 presented in the Amendment filed on December 11, 2002, in the parent application and Claims 2 and 4 that correspond to Claims 9 and 10 presented in the Amendment filed on July 24, 2003, in the parent application. No new matter is believed to be added. Moreover, by the present Preliminary Amendment, the specification is amended similar to the specification of the parent application. Further, a certified English translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 11-167872 is filed together with this continuation application. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599  
Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423  
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)  
GJM/SS/RFF/ys  
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